

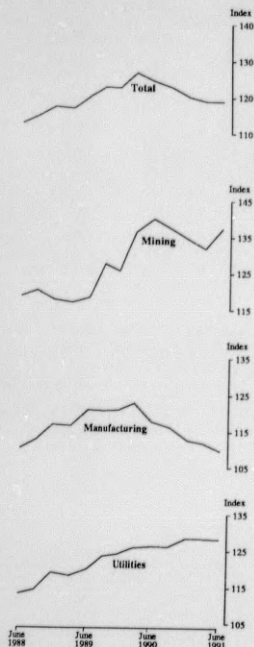
Statistics Weekly

Thursday, 26 September 1991

The week in statistics ...

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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEX
Seasonally adjusted at constant prices
1984-85 = 100



Industrial production steadies

Industrial production was steady in the June quarter 1991 in seasonally adjusted constant price terms, following moderate falls in the preceding four quarters. The trend series has fallen over the last five quarters although the rate of decline has moderated over the last two quarters.

The 'industrial sector' covers mining, manufacturing, and utilities (electricity, gas and water). The seasonally adjusted industrial production index, dominated by movements in the manufacturing industry, is now 4.4 per cent lower than in the June quarter 1990.

The seasonally adjusted index for the mining industry rose by 4.2 per cent in the June quarter following falls in the preceding three quarters. The index is now 1.9 per cent lower than the peak recorded in the June quarter 1990.

The manufacturing production index recorded its fifth consecutive decline with a fall of 1.9 per cent. Since the June quarter 1990 the index has fallen by 6.9 per cent.

The manufacturing index recorded falls in nine of its twelve industry subdivisions in the June quarter. The largest decline was 11.4 per cent for the transport equipment industry, following significant falls in the four previous quarters. Production in this industry is now at the lowest level since the quarterly constant price series began in September 1976. Miscellaneous manufacturing recorded a fall of 8.1 per cent. The largest increase was a 7.4 per cent rise in the chemical, petroleum and coal products industry following moderate falls in the preceding three quarters.

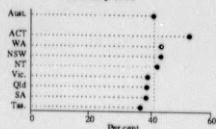
Compared with the June quarter 1990, ten of the component manufacturing industries recorded falls. The only industry to record significant growth over this period was the food, beverages and tobacco industry (up 4.8%).

The utilities sector recorded a second successive small fall with a decline of 0.2 per cent in the June quarter 1991. The trend series has recorded continuous growth since 1982-83.

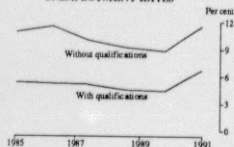
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, JUNE QUARTER 1991
Seasonally adjusted at average 1984-85 prices
Percentage change

	From previous quarter	From corresponding quarter of previous year
Mining (excluding services to mining)	4.2	-1.9
Manufacturing	-1.9	-6.9
Electricity, gas and water	-0.2	1.5
Total industrial production	0.0	-4.4

PERSONS WITH POST-SCHOOL
QUALIFICATIONS
February 1991



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



Towards a better educated nation

Forty-one per cent of the population aged 15 to 69 had at least one post-school qualification in February this year, according to the annual survey of educational attainment. This estimate of 4,896,100 persons, was four percentage points higher than in 1986.

Conversely, persons without post-school qualifications (6,491,900) had dropped from 59 per cent to 54 per cent of the population over the same period. The remainder were still at school.

In 1991 the number of persons with degrees numbered more than one million (1,047,200) for the first time. There were also 1,571,700 persons with a trade qualification, 2,229,200 with a certificate or diploma and 47,900 with some other type of post-school educational qualification.

In the year to February 1991, employment of persons with post-school qualifications increased by 83,300 or two per cent, unemployment by 101,000 or 60 per cent, and 12,800 more such persons were not in the labour force.

The estimates for persons without post-school qualifications show a different picture. Among this group there was a decrease of 152,100 or 4 per cent in employment, an increase of 109,000 or 29 per cent in unemployment, and a small increase of 1,100 among persons not in the labour force.

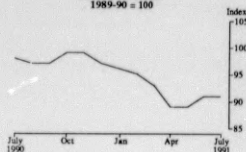
Some of the other characteristics of the 4,896,100 persons with post-school qualifications include:

- ☐ 77 per cent were employed in February 1991;
- ☐ 70 per cent were married;
- ☐ 41 per cent had obtained their qualifications since 1981;
- ☐ 29 per cent were born overseas; and
- ☐ 16 per cent had gained their qualifications overseas.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF PERSONS AGED 15 TO 69
'000

	February	
	1986	1991
With post-school qualifications	3,968.0	4,896.1
Degree	826.1	1,047.2
Trade qualification	3,004.1	1,571.7
Certificate or diploma		2,229.2
Other		47.9
Without post-school qualifications	6,394.8	6,491.9
Still at school	501.4	597.8
All persons	10,864.3	11,985.9

EXPORT PRICES
1989-90 = 100



No change in export prices

Overall export prices remained unchanged between June and July 1991, with price rises and falls offsetting each other.

The main price increases in July were for wool and cereals. These increases were offset by small price decreases for about half the items in the index.

On an annual basis, export prices fell by 7.1 per cent between July 1990 and July 1991.

The wide range of price changes for different commodities is shown below.

EXPORT PRICES, JULY 1991
Percentage change

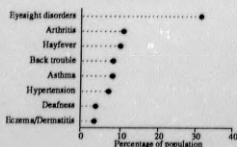
Commodity	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Gold, diamonds and coin	-2.0	3.2
Mineral products	-0.9	1.9
Motor vehicles, aircraft and vessels	2.0	1.0
Live animals and animal products	0.0	-1.0
Machinery and appliances	0.0	-5.1
Products of chemicals and allied industries	0.0	-10.6
Base metals	-1.2	-12.5
Vegetable products	0.0	-15.6
Prepared food stuffs	0.0	-18.1
Wool and cotton fibres	10.9	-19.3
All exports	0.0	-7.1

For further information, order the publication *Export Price Index, Australia* (6405.0), or contact Peter Cordy on (06) 252 5541.

How healthy are Australians?

Results of the 1989-90 National Health Survey conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics indicate that eight out of ten adult Australians feel they are in good or excellent health. Despite this, 76 per cent of adults reported they experienced at least one recent illness and 76 per cent reported one or more long-term conditions.

LONG-TERM ILLNESS 1989-90



As shown in the graph at left, long-term conditions most commonly reported included eyesight problems (most of which could be corrected by glasses), arthritis, hayfever, back trouble, asthma and hypertension. Respiratory conditions were more common among infants and children, while diseases of the nervous system and sense organs and circulatory condition were more commonly reported by people in older age groups.

Three quarters of the population took some form of action for their health in the two weeks prior to interview, with the use of medication clearly the most common action taken (64% of the population), followed by use of vitamin and mineral supplements (23%) and doctor consultations (20%).

Continued ...

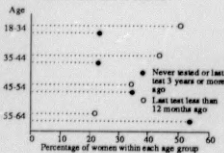
When compared with results of a similar survey conducted in 1983 the recent survey showed that the rate of consultations with health professionals other than doctors and dentists had risen 46 per cent, compared with an increase of 34 per cent in the use of medications and 28 per cent in doctor consultations.

The survey also obtained information about selected lifestyle and other factors which may influence health, showing a higher prevalence of smoking and "at risk" drinking in younger age groups and more overweight/obesity and less exercising among the middle aged.

SELECTED LIFESTYLE FACTORS 1989-90
Per cent

	Age group (years)			Total
	18-34	35-64	65 and over	
Smokers	35	28	13	28
At risk drinkers	13	11	6	11
Did no exercise	29	39	42	36
Overweight/obese	19	35	30	28

PAP SMEAR TESTS 1989-90



Information obtained about women's use of screening techniques for breast and cervical cancer showed that the majority of women aged 18 to 64 regularly had Pap smear tests and practised breast self-examination. However, as shown in the graph at left there was a tendency for older women, who are most at risk of cervical cancer, to have Pap smear tests less frequently than those in younger age groups.

For further information, order the publication National Health Survey: Summary of Results (4364.0), or contact Brian Richings on (06) 252 5786.

In brief ...

□ Viticulture

Preliminary figures from the 1990-91 viticulture collection indicate that:

- the total area of vines remained relatively stable, at 59,273 hectares;
- the total harvest of grapes increased by 4.1 per cent to 857,690 tonnes. Production for winemaking decreased by 7.6 per cent to 490,420 tonnes, with South Australia recording the largest decrease of 9.2 per cent.

Source: Viticulture, Australia, 1990-91, Preliminary (7311.0).

□ Visitor arrivals

There were 557,200 short-term overseas visitors to Australia arriving in March quarter 1991, slightly less than the 558,100 recorded in March quarter 1990.

Main source countries for visitor arrivals in March quarter 1991 were:

- Japan 119,600 (almost identical to March quarter 1990);
- New Zealand 90,100 (19% more);
- the UK and Ireland 81,800 (3% less); and,
- the USA 63,200 (6% less).

Source: Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, March Quarter 1991 (3402.0).

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SUPER
GRADE PETROL, JUNE QUARTER 1991
At selected retailers

City	Cents per litre
Darwin	69.6
Hobart	68.9
Canberra	67.9
Perth	66.4
Melbourne	65.1
Sydney	63.5
Adelaide	62.1
Brisbane	59.0

Source: Average Retail Prices of Selected Items,
Eight Capital Cities, June Quarter 1991 (6403.0).

Inquiries

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- ☐ through its bookshops
- ☐ by mail order (including subscription)
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Suggestions

Any suggestions for improvement to this publication should be addressed to:

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(06) 252 6104

Statistics Weekly
26 September 1991

All the week's releases: 18 to 24 September

General

Publications Advice, 20 September 1991 (1105.0; free)
Publications Advice, 24 September 1991 (1105.0; free)
Statistics Weekly, 19 September 1991 (1318.0; \$4.00)
Economic Indicators, Qld, September 1991 (1307.3; \$6.00)
Western Australia in Brief, 1991 (1306.5; free)
Tasmanian Statistical Indicators, September 1991 (1303.6; \$9.00)

Demography

Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Aust., March Qtr 1991 (3402.0; \$13.50)
Age and Sex Distribution of Estimated Resident Population of Statistical Local Areas, NSW — Data on Floppy Disk, 1990 (3211.1; \$75.00)

National accounts, finance and foreign trade

Exports and Imports, Aust.: Trade with Selected Countries and Major Country Groups, June Qtr 1991 (5422.0; \$18.00)
Common Funds, Aust., March Qtr 1991 (5657.0; \$10.50) — *new issue*

Labour statistics and prices

Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment, Aust., February 1991 (6235.0; \$12.50)
Export Price Index, Aust., July 1991 (6405.0; \$7.50)

Agriculture

Viticulture, Aust., 1990-91, Preliminary (7311.0; \$10.00)
Livestock Products — Meat, Qld, July 1991 (7204.3; \$4.50)
Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Qld, 1989-90 (7501.3; \$15.00)

Secondary industry and distribution

Quarterly Indexes of Industrial Production, Aust., June Qtr 1991 (8125.0; \$10.00)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Household Appliances and Electrical Equipment, July 1991 (8357.0; \$6.50)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Food, Drink, Tobacco, Stock and Poultry Food, June 1991 (8359.0; \$10.00)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Building Materials and Fittings, July 1991 (8361.0; \$6.50)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Plastics, Rubber, Paints, Detergents and Industrial Chemicals, July 1991 (8362.0; \$6.50)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Transport Equipment, July 1991 (8363.0; \$4.50)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Metal Products, July 1991 (8367.0; \$5.50)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Energy Products, July 1991 (8368.0; \$4.50)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Wood and Wood Products, July 1991 (8369.0; \$4.50)
Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, Qld, June 1991 (8741.3; \$10.00)
Mining, WA, 1988-89 (8404.5; \$10.00) — *final issue*
Forest Products, Tas., June Qtr 1991 (8203.6; \$4.00)

Transport

Motor Vehicle Registrations, Qld, July 1991 (9303.3; \$10.00)

Calendar of key releases

Expected releases over the fortnight to 8 October 1991

September

- 25** Manufacturing Production, Australia, August 1991, Preliminary (8301.0; \$10.00)
- 26** Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia, August 1991 (6354.0; \$11.50)
Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra, July 1991 (6408.0; \$7.50)
- 27** Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Eight Capital Cities, July 1991 (6407.0; \$10.00)
Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia, July 1991 (6411.0; \$10.00)
Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia, July 1991 (6412.0; \$10.00)
Registrations of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, August 1991, Preliminary (9301.0; \$10.00)
- 30** Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia, July 1991 (5609.0; \$10.00)

October

- 1** Balance of Payments, Australia, August 1991 (5301.0; \$15.00)
- 2** Building Approvals, Australia, August 1991 (8731.0; \$12.50)

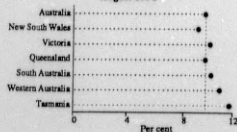
The latest ...

Changes to key State indicators — consolidated to
24 September 1991

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
— Percentage change from same period previous year —									
New capital expenditure (Mar. qtr 91)*	-8.4	-22.7	0	-8.9	-7.0	-16.9	n.a.	n.a.	-10.2
Retail turnover (July 91) (trend estimate)	2.4	1.0	2.5	5.8	2.6	4.1	n.a.	8.4	2.4
New motor vehicle registrations (July 91)†	-15.7	-41.8	-17.7	-11.9	-1.6	-8.1	-16.1	18.0	-20.9
Number of dwelling unit approvals (July 91)	26.5	11.3	13.6	7.3	16.3	-6.3	66.7	77.6	17.3
Value of total building work done (Mar. qtr 91)	0.8	-30.2	-19.5	2.7	-23.2	-18.8	33.5	-4.2	-13.5
Employed persons (Aug. 91)*	-0.7	-4.9	-1.0	-3.4	-0.7	-1.9	7.7	2.3	-2.0
Capital city consumer price index (June qtr 91)	2.8	4.1	3.4	4.7	2.2	3.8	4.1	3.2	3.4
Average weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time) (May 91)	3.6	5.2	5.7	6.5	8.1	3.1	5.8	5.6	5.0
Population (Dec. 90)	1.1	1.3	2.3	1.1	2.2	1.1	1.2	2.5	1.5
Room nights in licensed hotels and motels, etc (Mar. qtr 91)	0.0	-1.9	-0.9	-6.4	-1.2	7.7	0.2	14.5	-0.5

* Seasonally adjusted except for NT and ACT. † Seasonally adjusted except for Tas, NT and ACT.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
Seasonally adjusted
August 1991



Key national indicators – consolidated to 24 September 1991

			Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on		
			Period	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year
National production							
Gross domestic product	— current prices	\$m	June qtr 91	92,362	93,956	-1.2	-1.2
	— 1984-85 prices	"	"	62,148	63,912	-1.0	-2.4
Industrial activity							
New capital expenditure	— current prices	\$m	June qtr 91	6,304	6,011	-8.9	-13.4
	— 1984-85 prices	"	"	4,808	4,577	-8.2	-13.4
Expected new capital expenditure	— current prices	"	Six months to Dec. 91	12,756	n.a.	n.a.	-18.5
Retail turnover	— current prices	"	July 91	7,060.6	7,509.9	2.2	4.8
	— 1984-85 prices	"	June qtr 91	14,569.4	15,058.0	-1.0	-2.2
New motor vehicle registrations		no.	July 91	46,421	42,794	3.6	-20.9
Dwelling unit approvals		"	July 91	12,740	12,024	17.8	13.5
Value of all building approvals		\$m	"	1,907	1,989	16.9	11.5
Value of total building work done	— current prices	"	Mar. qtr 91	6,021	6,653	-5.1	-12.0
	— 1984-85 prices	"	"	3,789	4,112	-6.9	-15.0
Manufacturers' sales	— current prices	"	Mar. qtr 91	31,937	34,424	-1.9	-4.7
	— 1984-85 prices	"	"	22,162	23,833	1.5	-7.0
Expected manufacturers' sales		"	Three months to June 91	34,850	n.a.	n.a.	-6.2
Labour							
Employed persons (f)		'000	Aug. 91	7,669.2	7,728.6	-1.4	-2.0
Unemployment rate †(f)		%	"	9.5	9.8	0.0	2.6
Participation rate †(f)		"	"	62.7	63.4	0.8	-0.6
Job vacancies (f)		'000	May 91	25.1	25.7	-13.4	-49.8
Average weekly overtime per employee (f)		hours	"	1.1	1.1	-5.9	-18.8
Prices, profits and wages							
Consumer price index	1980-81 = 100.0	June qtr 91	214.4	n.a.	0.1	3.4	
Price index of materials used in manufacturing industries	1984-85 = 100.0	June 91	120.4	n.a.	2.2	3.3	
Price index of articles produced by manufacturing industry	1988-89 = 100.0	May 91	110.8	n.a.	0.3	1.8	
Company profits before income tax	\$m	June qtr 91	2,469	2,697	7.4	-23.1	
Average weekly earnings (Full-time adults; ordinary time)	\$	May 91	560.80	n.a.	-0.6	5.0	
Interest rates (b) (monthly average)							
90-day bank bills †	% per annum	July 91	10.10	n.a.	-0.40	-4.60	
10-year Treasury bonds †	"	"	11.00	n.a.	-0.15	-2.15	
Balance of payments							
Exports of merchandise	\$m	July 91	4,591	4,604	2.1	5.1	
Imports of merchandise	"	"	4,572	4,234	6.6	2.0	
Balance on merchandise trade (c)	"	"	19	370	-31.1	63.0	
Balance of goods and services (c)	"	"	-430	60	-80.2	n.a.	
Balance on current account (c)	"	"	-1,526	-1,079	-6.2	-2.1	
Terms of trade (d)	1984-85 = 100.0	June qtr 91	n.a.	100.2	1.2	-5.2	
Foreign investment							
Net foreign debt	\$m	30 June 91	130,314	n.a.	-2.4	2.9	
Net foreign liabilities	"	"	176,625	n.a.	1.6	6.6	
Exchange rates (monthly average)							
SUS	per SA	July 91	0.7711	n.a.	1.4	-2.7	
Trade weighted index	May 1970 = 100.0	"	60.0	n.a.	1.4	-1.8	
Other indicators							
Population (resident at end of qtr)	million	Mar. 91	17.3	n.a.	0.4	1.5	
Overseas visitor arrivals (e)	'000	Apr. 91	168	184	5.4	-4.1	

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (c) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (d) The ratio of the price of goods and services for exports to that for imports. (e) Later figures expected to be released Wednesday, 25 September 1991. (f) Later figures expected to be released Thursday, 26 September 1991. NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available. Figures have been taken from a variety of ABS publications. Copies may be obtained from Information Services (see page 6). Some of the figures shown are preliminary, some final, and some are revisions of previously published figures. Users should check the latest relevant publication or with the ABS Information Services if the status of the statistic is important.

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